

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

On page 2, paragraph 2, of the Action, claims 1-6 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Hasircoglu et al.

In reply thereto, applicant has amended claim 1 to define the invention more clearly over the prior art of record. Claim 4 has been incorporated in claim 1 and cancelled.

As clearly defined in the amended claim 1, applicant's modular jack comprises a housing having a pair of grooves in and on opposite sides of the top wall thereof and a pair of spring member having an elongated spring section provided in the groove and having a fixing section secured to the housing so that the elongated spring section is upwardly flexible and a stopper portion extending downwardly directly from the front end of the spring section.

Applicant's foolproof mechanism has a spring member that is secured to the housing at its end so that its elongated spring section is upwardly flexible in the groove of the top wall of the housing.

In addition, applicant's stopper portion does not extend from an abutment section but directly from the front end of the spring section so that it is resistant to deformation by plugging forces, resulting in the stable and reliable operation.

With respect to the prior art, Hasircoglu et al. disclose a modular jack comprising deflection members 30 each having a ramp surface 32 and a stopping tab 36.

However, Hasircoglu et al. do not disclose or suggest any spring member having an elongated spring

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section with a fixing section at its end so that the spring section is upwardly flexible in the groove provided in the top wall of the housing. Hasircoglu's retention end 34 is inserted into retention slot 40 so that it cannot be deflected upwardly. Consequently, Hasircoglu's deflection member 30 is flexible only in the section of the ramp surface 32. By contrast, applicant's spring member is flexible over the entire elongated spring section.

In addition, Hasircoglu's deflection member 30 is deflected only in the ramp surface 32 so that the ramp surface 32 is prone to be deformed by plugging forces. If this happens, the stopping tab 36, which extends from the front end of the ramp surface 32, changes in position so that it becomes unreliable in the stopping action. In contrast, applicant's stopper portion extending directly from the spring section and always provides a reliable stopping action.

For these reasons, it is submitted that applicant's invention as claimed in claims 1-3 and 5-6 are patentable over Hasircoglu et al.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully requested that this application be reconsidered, claims 1-3 and 5-6 allowed, and this case passed to issue.

The address change is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

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